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Harvard College Library

FROM

*Mrs. Ezra Abbot,
of Cambridge.*

4 June, 1885.



HISTORICAL SKETCH

~~IV, 1880~~
OF THE



LIBRARY OF BROWN UNIVERSITY,

WITH

REGULATIONS.

Reuben A. Guild

BY R. A. GUILD, A. M., LIBRARIAN.

[FROM THE UNIVERSITY QUARTERLY, APRIL, 1861.]

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TUTTLE, MOREHOUSE & TAYLOR, PRINTERS.

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THE
LIBRARY OF BROWN UNIVERSITY.

[From THE UNIVERSITY QUARTERLY for April, 1861.]

Keuben Aldridge Guild.

[NOTE.—The following brief sketch has been in part compiled from Prof. Jewett's "History of the Library of Brown University," which was published in 1843. Free use has been made of this, and also of its continuation in his "Notices of Public Libraries in the United States of America," published at Washington in 1850. Mr. Jewett was the Librarian of Brown University from 1841 to 1848, and thus had access to the College Records and other trustworthy sources of information. The Papers of President Manning, to which the present author has had access, furnish in addition many interesting facts in regard to the early history of the Library.]

HISTORICAL SKETCH.

In the year 1770, Rhode Island College, now called Brown University, was removed from Warren where it was first established, to Providence, a town containing at that time less than four thousand inhabitants. Here the first College edifice, (University Hall,) was erected, at an expense of about £4500, the principal part of which was raised in the town itself, "an instance of beneficence," says President Manning, "on the part of a few Baptists, which, their fortunes considered, is almost unparalleled."

With the exception of a few books procured in England in 1768-9, through the agency of the Rev. Morgan Edwards of Philadelphia, the College at the period of its removal from Warren was destitute of a Library. To supply, as far as possible, this deficiency, the Providence Library Company, (now merged in the Providence Athenaeum,) tendered the free use of its books to the Officers and Students—a privilege which was continued several years.

The following extract from a letter addressed by the President to Dr. Thomas Llewellyn, a wealthy Baptist gentleman of London, shows the character and the extent of the Library, two years later. The letter is dated at Providence, Feb. 21, 1772. "The College edifice is erected on a most beautiful eminence in the neighborhood of Providence, commanding a charming and variegated prospect;—a large, neat, brick building, and so far completed as to receive the Students who now

reside there, the whole number of whom is twenty-two. To this number we have the prospect of some further addition, although our increase will not probably be large until we are better furnished with a Library. At present we have but about 250 volumes, and these not well chosen, being such as our friends could best spare." Mr. Manning, who was distinguished in those early days for his scholar-like attainments and liberal views, did not overestimate the value and importance of a Library in connection with an institution of learning.

In the latter part of this year, perhaps through the agency of Dr. Llewellyn, the College received from the executors of the Rev. Dr. John Gill, of London, the distinguished Commentator, all his published works, together with 52 folio volumes of the Fathers, &c. This, in the days of "small things," was a noble gift, and greatly augmented the treasures of the Library.

The following year, the Rev. Benjamin Wallin, of London, presented to the Library his published works in 10 vols, "neatly bound and gilt," together with Bunyan's Works, 6 vols., Booth's Reign of Grace, and Wilson's Sermons. Donations were also received from the Rev. Dr. Stennett and others.

In 1774 we find upon the Records of the Corporation, a vote of thanks to the Rev. Simon Williams, "for his generous donation to the College Library, of Cudworth's Intellectual System, in 2 Vols., quarto."

On the 6th of December, 1776, immediately after the occupation of Newport by the British troops, the College was disbanded, and the College building, from that time until June, 1782, was occupied as a barrack and hospital for the American militia and the French troops under Count Rochambeau. During this confused period, the books were removed to the country for safe keeping, in the care of the Rev. William Williams, of Wrentham, Massachusetts, one of the class of seven that graduated at Warren in 1769, a Baptist Clergyman of high repute, and for many years a Fellow of the College.

At the reorganization of the College in the Autumn of 1782, the Hon. Asher Robbins, LL. D., late of Newport, was appointed to the office of Tutor, and took charge of the Library

as Librarian. It was then kept in the last chamber on the second floor of the College building. An addition was made to the Library soon after his connection with it. At a meeting of the Corporation in September, 1783, it was proposed by Mr. John Brown,* to raise a fund by subscription, for the pur-

*The Hon. John Brown was one of the "four brothers," as they are familiarly designated in Providence history, (Nicholas, Joseph, John and Moses,) whose comprehensive views and mercantile integrity contributed greatly to the prosperity of their native town. He was a merchant of large wealth, and the first in Rhode Island who traded to the East Indies and China,—“a man of magnificent projects, of extraordinary enterprise, and of great public spirit.” He was the leader of the party which, in 1772, destroyed the British armed schooner Gaspee, in Narragansett Bay. It was owing in a great measure to his patriotic exertions that Rhode Island was finally led to adopt the Federal Constitution. From 1799 to 1801, he was a member of Congress. In common with his brothers he was ever a munificent patron of learning. He subscribed £300 towards the erection of University Hall, the corner-stone of which (in May 1770,) he laid. From 1775 till 1797 he was the Treasurer of the College, and to the end of life his efforts to promote its welfare were unceasing. He died in 1803, at the age of 67. Nicholas, the oldest of the “four brothers,” and the father of him from whom the University derives its name, was also an early, persevering and zealous patron of the College. He was a Trustee from its commencement in 1764 until his decease. He was a man of sincere and unaffected piety, and his death, which occurred on the 29th of May, 1791, at the age of 62, was universally regarded as a public loss. Joseph, the second of the brothers, was a Trustee from 1769 until Dec. 3, 1785, when he died, at the age of 52. Although engaged in business and entirely self-educated, he was distinguished for his superior intellectual attainments, and especially for his skill in mechanical science. At the time of his death he was Professor of Experimental Philosophy in the College. The spacious and beautiful house of worship erected by the First Baptist Church, (of which he ~~and his oldest brother were~~ *was a* member,) in 1775, has remained for nearly a century as a conspicuous monument to his taste and genius as an architect. Moses, the youngest of the brothers, died Sept. 6, 1836, at the advanced age of 97. In 1773 he retired from business, and at the same time joined the Society of Friends, of which he remained throughout his long and useful life an influential member. He was a munificent patron of the Yearly Meeting Boarding School in Providence, and was continually engaged in the various benevolent enterprises of the day. We have extended this note in order to correct certain mistakes which biographers of these brothers have sometimes made, and especially on account of the great influence which they exerted in favor of this and other similar institutions. “Ever honored,” says Prof. Jewett, “be the Merchants, who in the early days of the College, brought the spoils of Commerce and laid them upon the altar of Learning! Though self-educated men, they fully appreciated the advantages of liberal culture, and determined to secure them for their children and the children of their contemporaries. The sons of these men have nobly emulated the example of their fathers.”

chase of books. To encourage liberality, he told the members to subscribe what they would, procuring by subscription elsewhere what they could, and that whatever the amount was, he would subscribe an equal sum. How well he redeemed his pledge, is seen by the following extract from a letter of President Manning to the Rev. Caleb Evans, dated September 13, 1784. "We have ordered out from London this Fall about 1400 Vols., being a donation from our Treasurer, John Brown, Esq. £200 was also subscribed by other members of the Corporation, for Apparatus." The list of the above, it may be added, was made out chiefly by Mr. Manning and the Chancellor, Governor Hopkins, both of whom were well versed in English literature, and excellent judges of good books.

In the year 1785, a donation consisting of Walton's *Biblia Sacra Polyglotta*, with Castell's *Lexicon*, 8 Vols., folio, Bayle's *Dictionary*, 5 Vols., folio, Chambers' *Cyclopaedia*, 2 Vols., folio, several *Fathers of the Church*, &c. &c., was received from the Bristol Education Society in England.

This Society was founded in the year 1780, in aid of the Baptist Academy, at Bristol, "to the end that Dissenting Congregations, especially of the Baptist Denomination; in any part of the British Dominions may be more effectually supplied with a succession of able and evangelical ministers." The Society has been eminently useful. It is now in possession of a very valuable Library, containing the collection of books, paintings, etc., of the Rev. Andrew Gifford, D. D., for many years, sub-librarian of the British Museum, and the Library of Thomas Llewellyn, LL. D., the distinguished Cambro-British scholar, to whom we have before referred, as the friend and correspondent of Manning. Concerning this donation the Rev. Dr. Caleb Evans, of Bristol, also a friend and correspondent of President Manning, thus writes. "At our last annual meeting, (August 24, 1785,) I obtained a vote in favor of your College respecting the many valuable books we have to dispose of, and am empowered to send you such as may meet with my approval." Such evidences of kind feeling on the part of those with whom this country had so recently been at war, are certainly gratifying, even at the present day.

During this same year, Granville Sharp, Esq., presented several of his own publications, together with a set of the works of his grandfather, Dr. John Sharp, Archbishop of York. He subsequently sent other valuable presents to the Library. In 1787, the thanks of the Corporation were presented to Mr. John Francis, (son-in-law of John Brown and father of John Brown Francis, late Governor of Rhode-Island,) for a valuable donation of books.

In the year 1792, Nicholas Brown, then a recent graduate of the Institution, and a young and enterprising merchant, commenced his benefactions towards the College, by the gift of a Law Library, containing about 350 Vols., of valuable books, which he had imported from England for that purpose.

The Rev. Isaac Backus, of Middleborough, Mass., author of the Church History of New England, who died in 1806, in the 83d year of his age and the 60th of his ministry, bequeathed to the College a part of his Library. The extent or value of this bequest it is now impossible to determine, as no record was made of it at the time. Among the books thus presented, however, there is one which deserves particular mention. It is a copy of Roger Williams' "Bloody Tenent yet more Bloody," being the copy originally presented by Williams to his friend and fellow laborer, Dr. John Clarke. On a blank leaf it contains the following words in Roger Williams' hand writing: "For his honored and beloved Mr. John Clark, an eminent Witnes of Christ Jesus, ag'st ye bloodie Doctrine of persecution, etc."

In 1815, Mr. Nicholas Brown gave \$500 for the purchase of books, and his sister, Mrs. Hope Ives, presented a copy of Dobson's edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica. Mr. Brown had ten years previous given a similar sum for the same purpose.

The next, and the most valuable of all the donations to the Library, which we have thus far recorded, is the legacy of the Rev. William Richards, LL.D., of Lynn, Eng. Mr. Richards*

* See Memoirs of the Life and Writings of Rev. William Richards, LL.D., by John Evans, LL.D., of Islington. 12mo., Chiswick, 1819.

was a native of South Wales. At the age of twelve he had been at school only one year. From this time till the 24th year of his age, when he entered the Academy at Bristol, he received no instruction. But his application to study was vigorous and persevering. He remained at the Academy in Bristol two years. After preaching for a short time as an assistant to Dr. John Ash, of Pershore, he accepted an invitation from the Baptist Church at Lynn, to become their pastor, and entered upon his public ministry in that town, July 7, 1776, where he continued to reside—more than half of the time as pastor of the Church—till his death, which occurred in 1818, in the 69th year of his age.

Mr. Richards seems to have been a man of considerable learning, particularly in English and Welsh history, and in the Welsh language and literature. His writings are historical, political and controversial.* His most important work is the *History of Lynn*, in 2 vols., 8vo. Dr. Evans says of it: "It is not only well written, the style perspicuous and manly, but it is replete with information as well as entertainment." His *Review of Noble's Memoirs of the Protectoral House of Cromwell*, is characterized by Lowndes† as "severe, but at the same time just." "His *Dictionary of Welsh and English*," says Dr. Evans, "a work of minute and wearisome labor, is in high repute." Mr. Richards was of the *General Baptist* denomination, and a strong advocate of religious liberty. It was his love of the liberal character of this Institution, which induced him to bestow upon it his library, as appears from the following passage in his *Memoirs*: "Mr. Richards had corresponded with Dr. James Manning, once President of the Baptist College in Rhode Island. From this gentleman he learned the liberal constitution of that respectable Seminary, and for some years previous to his death meant to bequeath to it his library. He accordingly made inquiry of Dr. Rogers, (of Philadelphia,) whether it was still conducted on the same liberal footing, in which case he should cherish the same generous intentions

* For a list of his writings—comprising nearly the whole—see under his name in the Catalogue.

† *Bibliographer's Manual*.

towards it." This inquiry was answered by Dr. Messer, then President of the College, in a letter from which it may be well to extract the following passage: "Though the Charter requires that the President shall forever be a Baptist, it allows neither him, in his official character, nor any other officer of Instruction, to inculcate any sectarian doctrine; it forbids all religious tests; and it requires that all denominations of Christians, behaving alike, shall be treated alike. The Charter is congenial with the whole of the civil government established here by the venerable Roger Williams, who allowed no religious Tests, and no pre-eminence of one denomination over another; and none has ever been allowed unto this day. This Charter is also congenial with the present spirit of this State and of this town."

Gratified with this letter, Mr. Richards bequeathed his library, consisting of about 1300 Vols., to Brown University. The original manuscript catalogue of this library, written in a large round hand, has recently been deposited in the College archives. It is a singular fact that the will of the donor was made on the very day on which the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him by this College. Mr. Richards had received no intimation that the honor was intended for him, nor did he live to hear that it had been bestowed.

The library which he bequeathed to the College is in many respects valuable. It contains a considerable number of Welsh books, a large collection of valuable works, illustrating the history and antiquities of England and Wales; besides two or three hundred bound volumes of pamphlets, some of them very ancient, rare and curious.

About the year 1820 a splendid donation, consisting of 103 Vols., comprising the best editions, mostly in quarto, of the works of the celebrated French mathematicians, Euler, Lacroix, Lagrange, La Place, etc., besides many valuable theological works, was made by the Rev. Thomas Carlile, a graduate of the College in the Class of 1809, and for several years Rector of St. Peter's Church in Salem, Massachusetts.

About the year 1824, 54 Vols. of valuable scientific works, including Cloquet's *Anatomie*, Lamarck's and De Candolle's

Flore Française, Cuvier's Règne Animal, and Wilkin's Vitruvius, were presented by Mr. John Carter Brown and Mr. Robert Hale Ives. Often, since that time, the names of these gentlemen appear among the benefactors of the Library.

For the next valuable accession to the Library—designated “the subscription of 1825”—the College is indebted to the efforts of Mr. Horatio Gates Bowen, who was Librarian of the Institution from 1824 to 1841. At his request several of the friends of the College subscribed eight hundred and forty dollars, which sum was expended in the purchase of books.

On the return of Professor Elton from Europe, in 1827, donations were received through him, from several distinguished gentlemen in England, in all 283 Vols.; besides 85 Vols. of classical and miscellaneous works purchased by him at the order of Messrs. Brown & Ives.

The Libraries of the Philophysian and Franklin Societies, composed of undergraduates, when these Societies became extinct, were, by provisions of their constitutions, incorporated with the College Library. They together contained 300 or 400 Vols.

The Government of Great Britain presented in 1835, 110 Vols. of the publications of the Record Commission.

In 1838, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Bartol, wife of Rev. Cyrus A. Bartol, of Boston, and Mrs. Hepsy S. Wayland, wife of President Wayland, presented 356 Vols. of standard works in French and Italian literature.

The late Rev. Jonathan Homer, D.D., of Newton, Mass., at various times made valuable donations of rare and costly theological books, including some valuable editions of the Bible. Many of these contain copious and useful manuscript annotations by the learned donor.

14 About the year 1870, the Hon. Theron Metcalf, LL.D., of Boston, a graduate of the College in the Class of 1805, presented to the Library a collection of 38 Vols. of Ordination Sermons. To this he has since added from year to year, until it now numbers 61 Vols. These bound volumes contain upwards of 1400 discourses preached in the United States, and mostly in New England, at ordinations, installations and in-

augurations, constituting without doubt the largest collection of the kind that has ever been made. He has also presented at various times during the past twenty years, 80 Vols. of Funeral Sermons arranged in classes as follows, viz. : Ministers, Boston Ministers, Ministers' Wives, Women, Presidents of the United States, Judges, Miscellaneous ; 22 Vols. of Century and Half-Century Discourses ; 20 Vols. of Dedication Discourses ; 12 Vols. of Missionary Sermons ; 12 Vols. of Fourth of July Orations, including all delivered before the municipal authorities of Boston from 1800 to 1860 ; 5 Vols. of Discourses on Washington ; 5 Vols. of Phi Beta Kappa Addresses ; 27 Vols. of Miscellaneous Pamphlets, Plymouth Discourses, Addresses to Alumni, Fast and Thanksgiving Sermons, &c., &c. The entire collection presented by Mr. Metcalf now numbers 306 Vols., containing about 8000 separate pamphlets. They have recently been indexed and catalogued in a most thorough manner. The importance of making, preserving, and rendering available for use collections of this kind, in connection with the ecclesiastical, civil and literary history of the country, can hardly be over estimated.

The donations which have thus far been mentioned were for the most part unsolicited. Some of them at the present day seem of trifling value. They are not placed on record as possessed of great interest in themselves, but as a just tribute to friends in the mother country, and to men, who, in times of less prosperity than that which the College now enjoys, contributed liberally towards laying the foundations of an honored and useful Institution.

The Library Fund next claims our attention.

LIBRARY FUND.

Soon after the accession of the Rev. Dr. Wayland to the presidency of the College, efforts were made to increase the efficiency of the Library, and thus provide enlarged means of liberal and generous intellectual culture, by raising a Fund for the purchase of books. At a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Corporation, held Jan. 10, 1831, it was unanimously resolved :

1. That immediate measures be taken to raise by subscrip-

tion, the sum of *twenty-five thousand dollars*, to be appropriated to the purchase of books for the Library, and apparatus for the philosophical and chemical departments of Brown University.

2. That the Chairman and Thomas P. Ives, be a Committee to carry the foregoing Resolution into effect.

Soon afterwards, a meeting of the friends of the Institution was called for the purpose of seconding this effort. At this meeting the wants of the Library and the importance of supplying them, were presented and urged by Francis Wayland, D.D., President of the University, Alexis Caswell, D.D., Professor of Mathematics, etc., and John Pittman, LL.D., Judge of the United States District Court and a member of the Board of Fellows. Previously to this, however, the Hon. Nicholas Brown had, with his wonted munificence, subscribed ten thousand dollars towards the Fund. The subscription was opened with the following conditions :

1. The whole amount shall be invested in a permanent fund, of which the interest shall be, from time to time, appropriated exclusively to the objects stated in the Resolution.

2. The selection of books and apparatus shall be made by joint committee of the Corporation and Government of the University.

3. One third of the amount subscribed shall become due on the first day of October, 1832, another third on the first day of October, 1833, and the remainder on the first day of October, 1834.

4. A copy of the subscribers' names, and of the sums subscribed by each, shall be deposited in the Library, and another among the archives of the University.

The following are the names of the largest subscribers. Most of the subscriptions were obtained through the exertions of Dr. Wayland and Dr. Caswell :

Nicholas Brown, Providence,-----	\$10,000
Thomas Poynton Ives, Providence,-----	1,000
John Bowen, New York,-----	1,000
James Arnold, New Bedford,-----	300

Nathaniel R. Cobb, Boston,-----	\$250
Francis Wayland, Providence,-----	200
Moses Brown Ives, Providence,-----	200
Robert Hale Ives, Providence,-----	200
Samuel Ward, New York,-----	200
John B. Jones, Boston,-----	150
Richard Fletcher, Boston,-----	150
Thomas Burgess, Providence,-----	150
Amasa Mason, Providence,-----	150
William Baylies, Bridgewater, Mass.,-----	150
Richard James Arnold, Providence,-----	150
William Taylor Grinnell, Providence,-----	150
William Giles Goddard, Providence,-----	125
Alexis Caswell, Providence,-----	125

The whole number of subscribers was 99, the smallest subscription being ten dollars. The sum thus obtained, amounting to \$19,437,50, was placed at interest until it had accumulated to twenty-five thousand dollars, and was then invested in a permanent fund, in the stock of the Blackstone Canal Bank, in Providence, according to the provisions of the subscription, as already specified. The first dividend became due in July, 1839. Since that time the proceeds have been regularly appropriated according to the design of the donors.

LIBRARY BUILDING.

The room used for the Library, at the time when the Library Fund was raised, "was an apartment in University Hall, crowded to excess, unsightly and wholly unfitted for the purpose to which from necessity it was devoted." To remedy this defect, the Hon. Nicholas Brown* erected at his own ex-

* This is the last benefaction of Mr. Brown that we shall have to record in this historical Sketch of the Library. He died Sept. 27, 1841, at the age of 72. For an account of his Life and Character, see a Commemorative Discourse delivered by Dr. Wayland, in the Chapel of Brown University, November 3, 1841. The entire sum of his recorded benefactions to the University, amounts to one hundred and sixty thousand dollars. From a sketch prepared by Professor Gammell in 1857, for the June Number of the "American Journal of Education," we make the following extracts: "A series of benefactions, so large in amount, bestowed on a single institution of learning, forms a brilliant example of private and unostentatious munifi-

pense a beautiful edifice for a Library and Chapel; to which, in testimony of veneration for his former Instructor, he gave the name of Manning Hall. At the dedication, February 4, 1835, Dr. Wayland delivered a Discourse on the "Dependence of Science upon Revealed Religion," which was published.

This Hall, the third College Building which has been erected, is of the Dorick order, built of rubble stone, and covered with cement. Including the portico, it is about 90 feet in length, by 42 feet in width. Its height, from the top of the basement, is 40 feet. The Library occupies the whole of the first floor, and is a beautiful room, ornamented in the centre with a double row of fluted columns, from which the shelves extend to the walls, forming twelve alcoves. Its dimensions are 64 feet by 38, and 13 feet high. Extra shelves for the accommodation of the books have been constructed in every available place throughout, and already they are completely filled. This, together with the fact, that the building is not fire-proof, and, like most library edifices in this country, is constructed with reference to beauty of outward proportion and architectural effect, rather than to convenience of interior arrangements, absolutely essential to the efficient working of a good public library, points to the necessity of a more capacious, convenient, and substantial building.

In 1843, the Library, which, on the 1st of January contained 10,235 bound volumes, was newly arranged, and a full catalogue of its contents, prepared by Professor C. C. Jewett, now Superintendent of the Free Public Library of Boston, was printed. This Catalogue was favorably noticed in the *North American Review*, and in other leading periodicals, and drew especial attention to this important department of the Institution. It is alphabetical, according to the names of Authors, and has a copious and analytical in-

cence, which at that time had seldom if ever been paralleled in the history of American Colleges. His example shone almost alone in the generation to which he belonged. At a later period, in the altered circumstances of New England society, this sum has in several instances been surpassed in the magnificent foundations which bear the honored names of other benefactors of humanity." * * * *
"He therefore deserves a most honorable and conspicuous place among those who have stood forth as leaders and pioneers of their age, in the true appreciation of Seminaries of learning, and in liberal donations for their foundation and support."

dex of subjects. A supplement, on cards, has been prepared, but it will not probably be printed.

Soon after the publication of the Catalogue, a Chair of Modern Languages was established at the College, and Mr. Jewett was appointed the Professor elect. During his absence in Europe, whither he had gone for the purposes of professional study, and to enable the friends of the Institution to carry out more effectually their wishes for the increase of the Library, he was authorized by Mr. John Carter Brown, to purchase at his own expense, such books in the German, French and Italian languages, as might be thought most useful for the College. The Collection thus obtained, numbering 2,921 volumes, well bound in half calf, was selected with great pains and excellent judgment. It includes a set of the French, German and Italian classics, in the best Library editions; the principal philosophical, scientific and historical works of late continental scholars; a complete set of the *Moniteur Universel*, from its commencement to 1826,—a clean, beautiful, well-bound copy of the original edition, in 77 Vols. folio; a set of the *Memoirs of the French Institute* since its reorganization, 61 Vols. 4to.; the collection of memoirs relative to the history of France, by Guizot and Petitot, 162 Vols. 8vo.; *Biographie Universelle*, 52 Vols., full calf, 8vo.; a complete set of the *Allgemeine Literatur-Zeitung*, 134 Vols. 4to.; and of the *Allgemeine Deutsche Bibliothek*, 133 Vols. 8vo.; *Il Vaticano*, 8 Vols. folio, elegantly illustrated; *Il Campidoglio*, 2 Vols. folio; the *Museo Borbonico*, 13 Vols. 4to.;—the original Naples edition; the works of Canova and Thorwaldsen; the *Musée Français* and *Musée Royal*, in 6 Vols. folio; the “*Description de l’Egypte*;” Canina’s *Architecture*, and many more illustrated works of great beauty and value, besides rare and costly maps and prints. These books were mostly purchased at auctions in Paris, Rome, Leipsic, Frankfort-on-the-Main, and Berlin. Mr. Brown* has since continued the *Moniteur*, Me-

*In addition to his donations to the Library, Mr. Brown has given, at different times, Fifty Thousand Dollars to the College, thus evincing a noble emulation of the deeds and benefactions of his honored father, Nicholas Brown, to whom we have so freely referred.

moirs of the French Institute, Museo Borbonico, &c., down to the present time. He has, also, from year to year, made valuable donations to the Library, chiefly of rare and costly books. Among them may be mentioned, in illustration, the following, viz: "Justiniani Institutiones," folio, Venetiis, N. Jenson, 1477,—a splendid copy of one of the old illuminated books, bound in full Russia; Babylonian Talmud, 12 Vols. folio, bound in full goat, gilt,—a sumptuous copy; Barnard's "Catalogus Bibliothecæ Regiæ," large paper, 6 Vols. folio; Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London, from its commencement, in 1665, to the present time, 78 Vols. quarto; Muratori's "Rerum Italicarum Scriptores," with Tartini's continuation, 30 Vols. folio; "Journal des Debats," 1800-36, 74 Vols. folio; Panzer's "Annales Typographici," 11 Vols. quarto; Livy's "Decades a Lucca Porro Recognitæ," folio; Tarvisi, J. Vercellius, 1482,—an uncommonly fine specimen of ancient typography; Year Books, 1596-1640, black letter, 10 Vols. small folio, very rare and important, bound in full Russia; Aringhi's "Roma Subterranea post Bosium, &c.," 2 Vols. folio, 1659; "Collection de Documents Inédits sur l'Histoire de France," 92 Vols. quarto.

To supply the deficiencies of the Library in standard English works, a subscription was opened among the friends of the College, amounting to about \$5,000, and Mr. Jewett was appointed to select and purchase the books. This collection was received in the Library in 1845, and raised the whole number of volumes to nearly 19,000.

Among the English books added to the Library at this time, is a Skakspeariana, in 196 Vols., bound in full calf, gilt. It was collected by Thos. Rood, Esq., bookseller in London, and it contains Ireland's own copy of his *Confessions*, inlaid, as the book-binders term it, with marginal notes in his own hand-writing, and many original and curious documents. The collection was purchased and presented to the Library by the late Moses B. Ives,* Esq., a graduate of the College in 1812,

5 * Mr. Ives died on the 7th of August, 1847, at the age of 63. A discourse, in commemoration of his life and character, was delivered by the Rev Dr. Wayland, from which we cannot forbear making the following extract. "As Treasurer of the University, he was brought into more intimate relations with the officers of in-

and for nearly thirty-two years its Treasurer. Mr. Brown has since added to this collection 150 Vols., purchased at the recent sale of Burton's Shakspeariana, in New York.

Philip Allen, Esq., of Providence, also presented to the Library at this time, a fine copy of the General Atlas of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, together with the military works of General Jomini, in 24 octavo Vols., with plates and atlases.

The Class which graduated in 1821, held a meeting in Providence, a quarter of a century from the time of their graduation, at which a considerable sum of money was subscribed for the benefit of the Library, in token of their grateful interest in the Institution at which they were educated. The money thus obtained was placed in the hands of Dr. Thomas H. Webb, of Boston, who purchased, with excellent judgment, about 500 Vols., mostly from the Library of the Hon. John Pickering. Among them are 50 Vols. of the "Histoire de l'Académie Royal des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres," "Fabricii Bibliotheca Græca," 14 Vols. quarto, and a large thick vol. of Plutarch's Lives, in Latin, published at Rome, in 1471. This last vol. is one of the oldest books in the Library.

The next year, 1847, the Rev. Samuel Osgood, D. D., of New York, at that time a Clergyman in Providence, proposed to several of the religious Societies of the city, a subscription for the purpose of supplying the deficiencies of the Library in the best editions of the Fathers of the Church, and the standard theological writers of the Reformation. About \$2,000 was raised, and a fine collection was purchased of the Benedic-

struction. No one of them will, I am sure, forget the fraternal care with which he watched over their interests. Was any of them sick,—he was the first person to visit him, with offers of assistance. Was any one borne down with labor, and in need of relaxation,—he was the first to suggest the remedy, and the most active in providing the means for its accomplishment. In all the efforts made, for the last thirty years, to increase the Library, and improve the facilities for education, he ever bore a prominent part. His interest never flagged, when anything could be suggested to improve the condition of the Institution which he loved so well. If, in any respect, Brown University has gained in favor with the public; if it has taken a more honorable rank among the Colleges of New England; if its means of education have been rendered, in any respect, ample, and its Board of Instruction such as would adorn any similar Institution in our country; to no one are we more indebted for all this, than to the late Treasurer of the University."

tine editions of several of the Fathers; the "Bibliotheca Maxima Veterum Patrum," 30 Vols. folio; Harduin's *Collectio Conciliorum*," 12 Vols. folio; besides the choicest editions of many of the Fathers not edited by the Benedictines, and a large collection of works connected with Patristic Literature and the History of the Reformation. To this collection of the Fathers, valuable additions were made at the recent sale in New York of the Library of the late Dr. Jarvis.

In 1854, the Hon. James Tallmadge, of New York, a graduate of the Class of 1798, bequeathed to the University the sum of \$1,000 to improve its Library. This amount was, accordingly, through the kindness and courtesy of Dr. Cogswell, appropriated to the purchase of some of the Astor Library duplicates. These now occupy a separate part of one of the alcoves.

Valuable donations have recently been made to the Library by Don Geronimo Urmeneta, an Alumnus of the University, and late Minister of Finance of the Republic of Chili;—and also by others. But our limits will not admit of further details.

From this imperfect sketch it will be seen, that the Library of Brown University, although not large, is unusually choice and valuable. A large proportion of the books have been selected with special reference to the wants of Students, and gentlemen engaged in literary and scientific research. The departments of Bibliography, the Classics, English History and Literature, Ecclesiastical History, Patristics, Mathematics, the Modern Languages, and the Fine Arts, are quite full, and comparatively complete. There are but few duplicates. In addition to the Metcalf collection already described, the Library has a large number of bound pamphlets, "those leaves of an hour, and volumes of a season, and even of a week," which, says D'Israeli, "slight and evanescent things as they appear, and scorned at by opposite parties, while each cherishes its own, are in truth the records of the public mind, the secret history of a people, which does not always appear in the more open narrative."

PRESENT NUMBER OF VOLUMES.

The present number of volumes, as nearly as can be ascertained by the ordinary methods of estimating Libraries, is

30,000. To this enumeration, may be added 6,000 Vols. belonging to the Philermenian and United Brothers' Societies, making a total of 36,000.

Several of the College Professors* have good Libraries in the specialities to which they are devoted. That of Dr. Sears is deserving of special mention. It contains upwards of 7,000

* In this connection it may not be improper to refer to the magnificent private collection of Mr. J. C. Brown, a member of the Board of Fellows, to whose liberality the College Library is so greatly indebted. It contains upwards of 10,000 volumes, selected with excellent judgment and skill, and purchased without regard to cost. The following works may be mentioned as an illustration of the character and great value of the Library. The "Complutensian Polyglot Bible," in 6 large folio volumes. This great work was published by Cardinal Ximenes, in 1552, and at an expense of 50,000 ducats. It is scarce at the present day, only 600 copies having been printed. The "Royal Polyglot," 8 Vols. folio; published at Antwerp, in 1569-72, at the expense of Philip II., of Spain; exceedingly rare and expensive, only 500 copies having been printed, many of which were afterwards lost at sea. The "Parisian Polyglot of Le Jay," 10 immense folio Vols.; published at Paris in 1628-45; large paper copy, and sumptuously printed. Walton's Polyglot, 6 Vols. folio. "The first books," says Dibdin, "ever published in England by subscription." Hutter's Polyglot, published at Nuremberg in 1599. "Among the scarcest books in Bibliography." A set of the bibliographical works of Dibdin, (on large paper,) so much sought for by all book collectors. "Relations des Jésuites," supposed to be the most complete set of these valuable reports in existence. A collection of about 500 Vols. of the celebrated "Aldine Editions." Mr. Brown's Library, however, consists principally of books relating to America. We cannot better describe it further, than by quoting from the "Librarian's Manual," a work published by Norton, of New York, in 1858. "These two Catalogues, (Bibliotheca and Supplement,) although they contain 2,523 Articles, are far from being complete. A Merchant, of Providence, (Mr. Brown,) well known to the amateurs of this class of books, has in his own private collection 3231 early works upon America, published between the years 1700 and 1800, of which 1512 are not mentioned by Rich. He has also 1174 works published *previous* to the year 1700, of which 509 are not mentioned by Ternaux; thus making 4,405 separate works relating to America and published previous to the year 1800, of which 2,021 were unknown to the eminent American Bibliographers, whose Catalogues are described in this list." The most costly of all collections of books is the one of which Harriot's Virginia forms a part, and which is known as *De Bry's Voyages*. This is a collection of voyages and travels in Asia, Africa, and America. Its publication was commenced in the year 1690, by De Bry, an eminent printer at Frankfort-on-the-Main, and continued by himself and his sons for forty years. It is copiously illustrated with maps and the finest engravings executed at that period. The series make 25 folio Vols., 13 of which relate to America. It was published entire in Latin and German, and in French and English in part. It also underwent many changes and variations. The finest and most complete set of this exceedingly rare work, including every edition and variation known, making nearly a hundred volumes, forms a part of Mr. Brown's private collection.

Vols., the greater part of which are in the German and Latin languages. The most valuable part of it consists of SPECIAL histories and biographies, particularly those relating to the period of the Reformation, and what preceded and followed it.

LIBRARIANS.

Previous to the year 1824, the duties of the Librarian were performed by one of the College Tutors. The following are the names of those who have filled this office, viz : Hon. Asher Robbins, LL. D., William Wilkinson, Rev. Jonathan Maxcy, D. D., Rev. Asa Messer, D. D., LL. D., Rev. Otis Thompson, Professor Calvin Park, D. D., William Emmons, Hon. John Bailey, Caleb H. Snow, M. D., Peter Pratt, Aaron Brooks, Hon. Horace Mann, LL. D., and C. Sumner Smith. From 1824 till 1841, the office was filled by Professor Horatio G. Bowen. He was succeeded by Professor C. C. Jewett, who held the office seven years. The present incumbent entered upon his duties in March, 1848.

REGULATIONS.

The Library is open during Term-time, daily, from 9 till 1 ; during Vacations, weekly, on Saturdays, from 10 till 1. The members of the Corporation and Faculty ; all resident Graduates ; all donors to the Library Fund ; all donors to the Fund for building Rhode Island Hall ; and all donors to the Library to the amount of \$40, residing in Providence, are entitled to the use of the Library without expense. Undergraduates are entitled to the use of the Library, and are charged therefor the sum of \$3 per annum.

The privilege of *consulting* the Library is extended, under ordinary restrictions, to all Graduates of the University ; to all settled Clergymen, of every denomination, residing in the city of Providence and the vicinity ; and to all other persons on whom, for the purpose of advancing the arts, science or literature, the Corporation or Library Committee may, from time to time, confer it. Books are occasionally loaned to persons at a distance, by special permission.

The following are some of the general regulations of the Li-

brary, established by a vote of the Corporation of Brown University, at their Annual Meeting, Sept. 2, 1841.

No book shall be borrowed from the Library or returned to it, without the knowledge and presence of the Librarian or his Assistant, who shall take particular notice of the state of each book, when delivered out, and when returned. And every book, when lent, shall, if the Librarian so direct, have a proper cover on it, which shall be returned undefaced, with the book. And the Librarian shall require of the borrower a receipt for every book, if he be present; otherwise the book may be delivered on his written application. In no case, however, shall books be lent to Undergraduates, unless they are present to sign a receipt for the same.

No person except officers of instruction shall borrow from the Library more than one folio, which he may keep four weeks; or one quarto, which he may keep three weeks; or two octavos or two duodecimos, which he may keep two weeks.

For every book not returned at the time specified, the person borrowing it shall pay for each folio or quarto, three cents; and for each octavo or duodecimo, two cents, for every day, until it shall be returned.

All the books, whether in possession of undergraduates, resident graduates, officers of instruction, members of the corporation, or others, shall be returned to the Library, on or before the Friday preceding the close of each collegiate term. Any person who may fail to comply with this requirement, shall pay twenty-five cents for each volume of which he retains possession.

If any book borrowed from the Library be injured or defaced by writing in it or otherwise, or be lost, the Librarian shall make immediate report of it to the Library Committee. And if the borrower be a Graduate or Undergraduate, the Library Committee shall oblige him to replace it as soon as possible, with one of equal value; or they may punish him by fine or otherwise; and if such volume be part of a set, the borrower shall be obliged to replace the whole set, or be punished, as above; and until this be done, he shall not be allowed to borrow any other book.

No book can be renewed to any Undergraduate or resident Graduate, unless it be brought to the Library.

No Undergraduate, while receiving books, shall take down any book from the shelves without special permission from the Librarian.

No person shall lend to any other a book which he has borrowed from the Library, nor let it go from under his personal custody. And no book shall, by any person, be carried out of the city of Providence, without the special permission of the Corporation or of the Library Committee.

Inasmuch as the Librarian is held specially responsible for the safe keeping of the books, etc., belonging to the Library, no person shall be allowed to enter the Library, unaccompanied by him or by his authorized agent.

If any Undergraduate desires to borrow a book, which is lent out of the Library, he may leave his name and the title of the book with the Librarian, and when the book shall be returned, the Librarian shall reserve it for the person so applying; provided he call for it at his next time of receiving books from the Library.

Such books, maps, charts, etc., as have been, or which may be presented, with the intention or request that they shall not be lent from the Library, shall in no case be lent therefrom. Books which are valuable for their plates, or for their rarity or antiquity, and all others which the Library Committee may designate as works of reference, shall not be lent; but may be freely consulted in the Library.

The privileges of the Library shall be withdrawn from all such persons as may incur fines under the preceding Regulations, until such fines shall have been paid. And the Librarian is authorized to suspend or withdraw the privilege of borrowing books from the Library, or of reading books therein, from any person who may wilfully violate any of its regulations.

The Joint Library Committee are authorized to establish, from time to time, such additional regulations, not incompatible with the Laws of the University, as shall be found proper and necessary, for the safety of the Library and the due administration of its concerns. All such additional regulations shall, however, be reported to the Corporation.







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Widener Library 005120538



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